

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

SANCHEZ, Loretta (Democrat)  
Representative, 47th District, California  
Elected 1996 to the 105th Congress  
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



## BACKGROUND

Born: Lynwood, California - 7 January 1960

Home: Anaheim, California

Marital Status: Married (Stephen Brixey III)

Religion: Roman Catholic

Education: Chapman University, B.A., 1982; American University, M.B.A., 1984

Military: None

Profession: Financial analyst

Political: No previous elective office. In 1996 defeated incumbent Robert Dornan (R) with 46% of the vote for the 46<sup>th</sup> District seat. In 1998 defeated Dornan in a rematch with 56.3%. Reelected in 2000 with 59% of the vote and in 2002 with 61.6% to the newly drawn 47<sup>th</sup> District.

Rep Sanchez was a registered Republican until 1992. The daughter of working-class Mexican immigrants, she is a liberal on social issues but is a moderate on fiscal policy. Member of both the centrist Blue Dog and New Democrat Coalitions. In the 105<sup>th</sup> Congress opposed efforts to terminate spending on the B-2, a source of many jobs in her state. District includes Disneyland, as well as numerous defense subcontractors. Represents the largest Vietnamese-American community in the US; has expressed concern about human rights violations in Vietnam. Supported an antipersonnel landmine moratorium, opposed gender segregated basic training, and supported abortions in overseas military hospitals for female military personnel and dependents. In the 106<sup>th</sup> Congress, expressed support for the F-22. Supported efforts to repeal the prohibition on female military personnel and dependents serving overseas from receiving legal abortion services. Opposed a prohibition on the use of funds in FY00 for the purpose of conducting combat or peacekeeping operations in Yugoslavia; believed it sent the wrong signal to Milosevic and to US forces engaged in combat operations. Voiced concern about the survival of the veterans' health care system. Traveled to Vietnam to meet with officials regarding human rights, POW/MIA issues, and refugee issues.

In the 107th Congress, became co-chair of the Democratic Caucus Task Force on Defense and Military Personnel. Again offered unsuccessful amendments to permit abortions in overseas military medical facilities. Called upon Congress to provide aid to workers who lost their jobs as a result of the Sept 01 terrorist attacks. Commended the service and commitment of Guard and Reserve units activated as a result of the terrorist attacks. Objected to the inclusion of language in the FY03 DoD auth that he said would jeopardize wilderness study areas beneath the air space of the Utah Test & Training Range (UTTR). Opposes the development and deployment of nuclear-tipped ballistic missile interceptors; supports maintaining flexibility to reduce operationally deployed nuclear weapons below 1700; supports stronger notification requirements prior to resumption of underground nuclear testing. In Nov 2002 her sister Linda was elected to 108<sup>th</sup> Congress from CA's 39<sup>th</sup> District.

Additional Background: Member, House Navy / Marine Corps Caucus.

AF Bases: None

## COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES – Subcs on: Total Force; Strategic Forces

HOMELAND SECURITY